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Igor Gouzenko, Unmasked Spies

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OTTAWA, June 29 (UPI) — Igor Gouzenko, a Soviet cipher clerk whose defection in 1945 helped to unmask Soviet efforts to crack Western atomic bomb secrets, has died, the police and his associates said today. He was 65 years old.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police gave no details of his death and said only that he had been buried.

Mr. Gouzenko took documents from the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa that revealed the extent of Soviet espionage efforts to obtain American and British atomic bomb secrets. His information led to the arrest and imprisonment of Alan Nunn May, a British nuclear physicist, and Klaus Fuchs, a German-born British scientist. The two were said to have speeded Soviet atomic bomb development vastly.

Mr. Gouzenko so feared for his life for

almost four decades that he never appeared for public interviews without a hood over his head. He spent his final years living with his family under an assumed identity in Toronto.

A close associate said he had been blind for five years.

He defected from the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa on Sept. 5, 1945, and provided the Canadian police with 109 documents that uncovered Soviet espionage activities in Canada. A Royal Commission of Inquiry was set up on Feb. 5, 1946, to investigate the evidence.

The evidence showed that Soviet covert operations in Canada were expanded after Nazi Germany's invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941. The Soviet legation in Ottawa that opened in 1942 directed the spy network, which apparently involved several independent units, each reporting directly to Moscow.